

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PPT-02 AID-05 OIC-04 OPR-02 SS-20 PRS-01

SY-04 IO-14 MED-03 OC-06 CCO-00 PER-05 USIA-15 RSC-01

DRC-01 /104 W

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R 041434Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2721

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FOR OIC, OPR, S/S, USOAS, ARA, S/PRS, AND SY

PLEASE PASS TO OTHER WASHINGTON ADDRESSEES AS REQUIRED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, EC

SUBJ: PREPARATION FOR THE NOVEMBER OAS MINISTERIAL MEETING IN
QUITO, NOVEMBER 8-11

REF: QUITO 6527

1. DCM AND EMBOFF ATTENDED, ON OCTOBER 1, FIRST MEETING
CONVOKED BY FOREIGN MINISTRY TO DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR
FORTHCOMING OAS MINISTERIAL MEETING. ECUADOREANS WANT VERY
MUCH FOR THE MEETING TO BE A SUCCESS, AND THEREFORE TO BE
AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE. THEY HAVE ASKED FOR AS MUCH
INFORMATION AS WE CAN GIVE THEM SO THEY CAN MAKE PLANS.
EMBASSY SUBSEQUENTLY RECEIVED NOTE FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY
FORMALLY INVITING US AND REQUESTING A DELEGATION LIST (REFTEL).

2. AFTERNOON OCTOBER 3 THREE OAS REPRESENTATIVES (MESSRS MCADAMS,
ECHELAR, AND BOUZO) DOING INITIAL ADVANCE WORK IN QUITO FOR THE
NOVEMBER MEETING, CALLED ON AMBASSADOR TO BRIEF US ABOUT THEIR
MEETINGS WITH ECUADOREAN OFFICIALS. THEIR PRINCIPAL CONCERNS
ARE A) HOTEL SPACE, B) TRANSPORTATION INTO AND OUT OF QUITO;

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AND C) LACK OF USUAL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES SUCH AS TYPE-

WRITERS, REPRODUCTION EQUIPMENT, ETC. THEY BELIEVE THAT TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ATTENDING THE MEETING (INCLUDING SECURITY AND PRESS TYPES, OBSERVERS, TECHNICAL STAFF) COULD VERY WELL RUN TO AROUND 600 (VS GOE ESTIMATES OF 450), RATHER MORE THAN THE QUITO HOTEL SECTOR IS SET UP TO HANDLE. THEY ARE CONTINUING THEIR DISCUSSIONS WITH GOE OFFICIALDOM, BUT PROMISED US COPIES OF TENTATIVE SCHEDULES FOR THE CONFERENCE AND OTHER DETAILS WHICH WILL BE USEFUL; WE WILL SEND THESE BACK TO WASHINGTON AS SOON AS RECEIVED.

3. CRITICAL INFORMATION IS GOING TO BE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN EACH DELEGATION, AS WELL AS ASSOCIATED TECHNICAL AND STAFF PERSONNEL. HOTEL SPACE IN QUITO IS EXTREMELY SCARCE, AND ALTHOUGH THE THREE BIGGEST HOTELS HAVE BEEN COMMANDEERED FOR THE EVENT, WE WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE TO PUT A NUMBER OF OUR OWN PEOPLE UP WITH MEMBERS OF THE US MISSION. WE REQUIRE SOONEST THE BEST GUESSES WASHINGTON CAN PROVIDE ABOUT THE OVERALL LIKELY NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WE WILL HAVE HERE, INCLUDING SECURITY, S/S, FLIGHT CREWS, PRESS, ETC. JUST NUMBERS OF PEOPLE WOULD BE USEFUL.

4. FOLLOWING ARE SOME OBSERVATIONS THAT MAY BE HELPFUL TO WASHINGTON FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, AND SOME SPECIFIC ACTION REQUESTS.

5. ALTITUDE. QUITO IS QUITE HIGH -- 9,300 FEET PLUS. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT FOUND ALTITUDE TO BE A SERIOUS LIMITING FACTOR, IT SHOULD CERTAINLY BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY ALL WHO MAY COME. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO HAVING TECHNICAL AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL ARRIVE A COUPLE OF DAYS EARLY TO GET USED TO THE ALTITUDE.

6. HEALTH. FOOD AND WATER ARE NOT PROBLEMS IF THE USUAL PRECAUTIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN. IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED MEDICAL FACILITIES AVAILABLE, WE RECOMMEND CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO BRINGING A DOCTOR ALONG.

7. WEATHER. QUITO IS QUITE COOL BECAUSE OF THE ALTITUDE
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(TEMPERATURE RANGE 50-70 DEGREES) AND MAY BE RAINY; MANY HOTEL ROOMS AND MOST PRIVATE HOMES DO NOT HAVE HEAT. RECOMMEND FALL CLOTHING AS WELL AS RAINWEAR.

8. DRESS AND WIVES. GOE HAS AGREED THAT SOCIAL EVENTS WILL BE MINIMAL AND CAN BE "DARK SUIT". NO FORMAL ATTIRE WILL BE NECESSARY. SINCE THIS IS A WORKING CONFERENCE, ALL MAIN EVENTS ARE BEING PLANNED AS STAG OCCASIONS,

AND ALTHOUGH THE GOE HAS NOT PRECISELY DISCOURAGED THEM FROM COMING ALONG, NO EVENTS ARE CURRENTLY BEING PLANNED FOR WIVES.

9. SCHEDULE. TENTATIVE EXPECTATION IS THAT DELEGATIONS WILL ARRIVE ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (NOV 7 & 8). INAUGURAL, RULES SESSIONS, INSCRIPTION OF DELEGATION LISTS, CHOOSING CHAIRMAN AND MODERATORS WILL TAKE PLACE FRIDAY MORNING (8TH) AND FIRST WORKING SESSION FRIDAY AFTERNOON. BANQUET FRIDAY NIGHT (8TH) AT PRESIDENTIAL PALACE (HEAD OF DELEGATION, RESIDENT AMBASSADOR, AMBASSADOR TO OAS). WORKING SESSIONS SATURDAY (9TH). RECEPTION GIVEN BY FOREIGN MINISTER SATURDAY NIGHT (9TH). AT LEAST ONE WORKING SESSION SUNDAY MORNING (10TH). CLOSING SESSION MONDAY AFTERNOON (11TH). DELEGATIONS DEPART TUESDAY (12TH).

10. AIRPORT. QUITO AIRPORT IS NOT EQUIPPED FOR NIGHT OPERATIONS. THERE IS ALSO INFREQUENT BAD WEATHER WHICH CAN CLOSE DOWN QUITO AIRPORT FOR BRIEF PERIODS OF TIME. THIS IS NOT A MAJOR PROBLEM, BUT BOTH ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE WILL HAVE TO BE DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS. QUITO IS ABOUT 8 AIR HOURS FROM WASHINGTON. ((GUAYAQUIL, THE USUAL ALTERNATE, IS 45 MINUTES FLYING TIME AWAY.))

11. AIR SERVICES. INSUFFICIENT FOR THE DEMAND AND HEAVILY CROWDED. BRANIFF HAS ABOUT 25 SEATS A DAY AND ECUATORIANA HAS FOUR JET FLIGHTS A WEEK FROM AND TO MIAMI. STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT BOOKINGS BE MADE AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE FOR FLIGHTS BOTH INTO AND OUT OF ECUADOR. THE AIRLINE SCENE IS GOING TO BE VERY, VERY DIFFICULT AND THE EMBASSY'S ABILITY TO ASSIST WILL BE MARGINAL. ALTERNATIVE ROUTING IS INTO GUAYAQUIL AND UP TO QUITO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BY INTERNAL AIR SERVICES.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PPT-02 AID-05 OIC-04 OPR-02 SS-20 PRS-01

SY-04 IO-14 MED-03 OC-06 CCO-00 PER-05 USIA-15 DRC-01

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R 041434Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2722

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12. HOTEL/ACCOMMODATIONS. GOE HAS SET ASIDE 5 ROOMS IN HOTEL QUITO INTERCONTINENTAL (QI) FOR EACH DELEGATION; QI IS NEXT DOOR TO EMBASSY RESIDENCE, AND ABOUT 5 MINUTES FROM EMBASSY CHANCERY. WE HAVE RESERVED, IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF ROOMS AT HOTEL COLON, 3 BLOCKS FROM EMBASSY CHANCERY. HEAD OF US DELEGATION IS, OF COURSE, INVITED TO STAY AT THE RESIDENCE. SUBJECT TO YOUR CONCURRENCE, WE PROPOSE TO HAVE SENIOR MEMBERS OF US DELEGATION STAY AT HOTEL QUITO INTERCONTINENTAL, AND REMAINDER AT THE HOTEL COLON TO THE EXTENT THAT WE CAN OBTAIN ROOMS. REMAINDER OF US DELEGATION AND ANCILLARY PERSONNEL WILL BE LODGED IN OTHER HOTELS AND/OR ACCOMMODATED IN HOMES OF US MISSION PERSONNEL. WASHINGTON PLANNERS SHOULD POLL THOSE COMING TO QUITO INCLUDING SECURITY PERSONNEL, FLIGHT CREW, PRESS REPS, ETC, TO DETERMINE HOW MANY SINGLE ROOMS WILL BE NEEDED AND HOW MANY PEOPLE CAN SHARE DOUBLE ROOMS. DOUBLING UP SHOULD BE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED. ALL EXCEPT SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION SHOULD BE ADVISED OF POSSIBLE NEED TO STAY IN HOMES OF MISSION PERSONNEL.

13. DELEGATION COMPOSITION AND CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATION. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, FOR PLANNING PURPOSES, TO KNOW WHAT THE SENIOR LEVELS OF THE DELEGATION ARE LIKELY TO COMPRISE, EVEN IF IT IS NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME TO

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DETERMINE WHO WILL BE THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION. ALSO WHETHER THOUGHT IS BEING GIVEN TO INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS ON THE DELEGATION.

14. SPEECHES, PUBLIC STATEMENTS, PRESS. AIRPORT ARRIVAL CEREMONY WILL PROBABLY BE MINIMAL. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT A BRIEF ARRIVAL STATEMENT BE PREPARED TO HAND OUT TO PRESS, WITH PERHAPS A FEW EXTEMPORANEOUS REMARKS BY

THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION. NEED TO KNOW WHETHER PRESS REPRESENTATIVES WILL ACCOMPANY THE US DELEGATION, AND WHAT FACILITATIVE SERVICES THEY WILL REQUIRE. STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT PRESS COVERAGE BE ON A "POOL" BASIS, BECAUSE OF CROWDED CONDITIONS HERE (MAINLY HOTELS). PRESS REPS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THERE ARE NO FACILITIES FOR SENDING OUT LIVE TV COVERAGE (VIA SATELLITE), AND THAT IN ORDER TO SEND RADIO-PHOTOS, THEY WILL HAVE TO PROVIDE THEIR OWN TRANSMITTING TERMINALS. RECOMMEND THAT ALL SUMMARIES OF PRESS REPORTING (BOTH USIA AND S/PRS) BE PREPARED IN WASHINGTON AND TRANSMITTED TO QUITO AND THAT ARA POSTS BE SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED TO SEND SUCH REPORTING TO WASHINGTON RATHER THAN QUITO. PLEASE ADVISE US ABOUT PLANS FOR PRESS COVERAGE.

15. OFFICE SPACE. FOR CONVENIENCE SAKE, WE RECOMMEND THAT OFFICES, INCLUDING FOR HEAD OF DELEGATION (AND S/S, IF INVOLVED), BE SET UP IN EMBASSY. PLEASE CONFIRM THAT THIS IS ACCEPTABLE. WHAT ADDITIONAL OFFICE SPACE WILL BE REQUIRED (USOAS, ARA, OIC?).

16. VEHICLE SUPPORT. MISSION RESOURCES ARE MINIMAL, AND WE WILL BE HARD PRESSED TO COMPETE FOR RENTAL VEHICLES AND DRIVERS. NEED SOONEST A COMPREHENSIVE ESTIMATE OF VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS. DEPENDING ON WHO THE HEAD OF THE US DELEGATION IS, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER FLYING DOWN A VEHICLE FOR HIS USE DURING CONFERENCE.

17. OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES. WE CANNOT RENT IBM SELECTRICS HERE; IF SELECTRICS DESIRED, RECOMMEND SECRETARIES (S/S, USOAS, OIC, ETC) BRING THEIR OWN. MISSION HAS LIMITED NUMBER OF OTHER ELECTRIC TYPEWRITERS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CURRENT IS STANDARD 110 VOLT 60 CYCLE. WE ARE ENDEAVORING TO OBTAIN HIGH-SPEED XEROX WITH COLLATORS, BUT CAN MAKE NO PROMISES. ANY OTHER SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT REQUIRED SHOULD BE BROUGHT ALONG WITH DELEGATION.

18. COMMUNICATIONS. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FULL 24 HOUR C&R COVERAGE, WE WILL NEED THREE ADDITIONAL STATE COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS ASSISTANTS. PLEASE ADVISE.

19. MARINE SECURITY GUARDS. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FULL 24-HOUR MARINE SECURITY GUARD COVERAGE OF RESIDENCE, S/S CONTROL ROOM IF REQUIRED, OTHER SECURE AREAS, AND TO PROVIDE COURIER SERVICE, WE WILL NEED FOUR ADDITIONAL MARINE GUARDS. PLEASE ADVISE.

20. SECURE PHONES. WILL THESE BE REQUIRED FOR OFFICE OF HEAD OF DELEGATION? S/S CONTROL ROOM? ELSEWHERE? CHANCERY HAS SECURE VOICE PHONE IN ONE SMALL BOOTH. ACCORDING TCU, ONE EXTENSION CAN BE RUN TO HEAD OF DELEGATION OFFICE ON SAME FLOOR CHANCERY WITH LITTLE DIFFICULTY. SECURE PHONE AT RESIDENCE IS ANOTHER MATTER AND WOULD REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE TIME, EQUIPMENT AND TECHNICIANS TO INSTALL. PLEASE ADVISE REQUIREMENTS SOONEST.

21. COURIER SERVICE. QUITO NORMALLY HAS ONLY ONE NORTHBOUND CLASSIFIED COURIER EACH WEEK. RECOMMEND ADDITIONAL SERVICE BE PROVIDED DURING WEEK OF, WEEK BEFORE AND AFTER CONFERENCE. PLEASE ADVISE.

22. ADVICE TO TRAVELLERS. OWING TO THE TIGHT HOTEL SITUATION IN QUITO DURING THE CONFERENCE PERIOD, REQUEST A) A MESSAGE BE SENT TO ALL ARA POSTS ADVISING OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL TRAVELLERS TO STAY AWAY BETWEEN NOVEMBER 4 AND 13; B) ALSO REQUEST THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO PROVIDING THIS ADVICE TO GENERAL PUBLIC THROUGH NOTICES IN US CONSULATES AND PASSPORT OFFICES.
BREWSTER

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